NEW YORK CITY.

THE COURTS.

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS

The Merchants' Union Express Case—A New Suit Commenced.

Before Judge Ingraham.

Blatchford vs. Ross, President, &c.—This case came up yesterday on a motion to settle the order to be made in accordance with Judge Ingraham's opinion. The Court took the papers. During the discussion it was stated that a new suit had been commenced on behalf of the old companies, the Merchants' Union and the American, and the new combined company, in the nature of an omnibus suit, and that a temporary injunction restraining the proceedings in all the other suits, and requiring all the parties to those suits to come in and try their claims in this new suit, had been issued and served.

SUPREME COURT—SPECIAL TERM.

The Suit Against the Pacific Railway Directors.

Before Judge Barnard.

The People ex rel., Fisk vs. Durant and Others.—This was a proceeding to compel the directors of the Union Pacific Railroad to submit to examination before a referee. Judge Barnard, having a large short court calendar before him, adjourned the matter till this morning.

SUPERIOR COURT—TRIAL TERM—PART I.

Action Against the Erie Railroad Company.

Before Judge Barbour.

Andrew Primrose, by his Guardian, James Wood, vs. The Erie Railroad Company.—In the month of November, 1867, Andrew Primrose, a boy six years old, was sent with a message, to perform which he was obliged to cross the track at the Venango branch of the Erie Railroad. Just as he was passing over the track he was struck by an oil train, which was moving at the rate of twelve miles an hour, and was killed. The train, it was stated, was visible 1,200 yards from the point at which the occurrence took place and could have been seen by the boy had he looked. The guardian of the deceased now sues for damages. Counsel for the defendant moved for a nonsuit on the ground that if the defendants were guilty of negligence it was incumbent on the plaintiff to prove that negligence. He also submitted that there had been contributing negligence on the part of the plaintiff. The motion was granted and the complaint was accordingly dismissed.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS—TRIAL TERM—PART II.

Important to Carriers.

Before Judge Daly.

Lienen vs. Dinsmore.—This was an action to recover the sum of $1,500 under the following circumstances:—In March, 1867, a draft was given the Adams Express Company for collection at Memphis, Tenn. After repeated application it was discovered that the party owing the amount had failed. The plaintiff now sued the defendant on the ground of negligence in failing to collect. The defence was that the Adams Express Company's line extended only as far as Bowling Green, Ky., and that the right of collecting was by them transferred to a Southern express company, relieving themselves from the responsibility. A nonsuit was asked for, but the Court denied the motion, ruling that the defendant should have apprised the plaintiff that the right of collecting had been transferred to another company. The jury found for the plaintiff in the full amount claimed.

Action and Verdict Against the Corporation.

Lenges Smith vs. The Mayor, &c.—The plaintiff was driving down Pearl street on the 18th of June, 1864, and when opposite No. 333, trying to avoid a passing car, his horse fell into a hole in the street, in consequence of which he was precipitated from his seat upon the wagon to the ground and rendered insensible. Owing to the injuries he then sustained he was confined to his house for seven weeks. The defence was a denial of negligence on the part of the Corporation, and an averment to the effect that the hole in question had existed in Pearl street for more than three months prior to the accident. For plaintiff, A. Phillips; for defendant, H. J. Forker. Verdict for the plaintiff. Damages $500.

The Price of a Night's Fun.

V. Phillips vs. C. H. Deutch.—The plaintiff is a *bal masqué* costumer, and the defendant, on the 28th March, 1867, procured the loan of two dresses to attend some festive scene, the price for the costumes being seventy-five dollars, of which thirty-five dollars was the figure of a loan of a suit of the reign of the "Merry Monarch." The Court observed that it was rather an expensive night's entertainment. As the defendant did not appear judgment was taken by default.

Action Against the Corporation.

N. Cranell vs. The Mayor, &c.—The action in this case was brought to recover $5,000 for injuries sustained by plaintiff when walking through Laurens street in January, 1867, when she fell upon the ice and broke her arm, attributing the accident to the carelessness of the defendants in not keeping the locality in repair. The jury were discharged, being unable to agree to a verdict.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS—SPECIAL TERM.

Decision.

Judge Barrett rendered judgment in the following case yesterday morning:—

Albine Schnepf vs. Alvis Schnepf.—Report confirmed and judgment of divorce granted. Alimony and counsel fee as reported.

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS.

Burglars Sentenced.

Before Judge Bedford.

At the opening of the court yesterday the City Judge caused to be arraigned at the bar Develin and Wilson, who were charged with burglary. His Honor said:—Develin, you were jointly indicted with Wilson and Primrose for burglary. You were tried, but the jury could not agree. You are an ex-convict, but notwithstanding this fact the statement you made yesterday in open court to my mind bore the impress of truth. It may have been a misfortune and not a crime for you to have been found in a room where the stolen property was. With the concurrence of the District Attorney I will discharge you on your own recognizance; but, mind you, see to it that in the future you keep your word and become an honest member of society and support your mother in her old age. Wilson, you plead guilty to an attempt to commit this burglary. I believe this is the first time you have ever been indicted. Your mother is a respectable and worthy woman, and it is a sad sight to see you here to-day awaiting sentence. I am told you have a young wife and a little child. I shall not to-day brand you as a felon, but will give you one more chance, and shall keep the judgment over your head for your future good conduct. You must leave the city within forty-eight hours. Wilson, you are a young man; the world is still before you. You have much to live for. Go, and win an honorable name.

Edward Johnson pleaded guilty to an attempt at grand larceny, the indictment charging that on the 8th inst. he stole a tub of butter from Thomas Hart. He was sent to the State Prison for two years.

John Skelly pleaded guilty to an attempt at burglary, the charge being that on the 8th inst. he effected an entrance to the store of George W. Van Voorst, 348 Canal street, and stole fifty dollars' worth of engravings. He was sent to the Penitentiary for eighteen months.

Henry Munroe was tried and convicted of burglary in the first degree, the testimony showing that on the night of the 1st of this month he entered the dwelling house of Elias S. Van Arsdale, 149 East Thirty-ninth street. An entrance was effected through the basement door, which was forced open by a chisel. The prisoner was arrested by an officer in the rear of the house, and afterwards a chisel was found in an alleyway near the premises. Two trunks filled with property were found in the hallway. The Judge, in passing sentence, said:—Munroe, your record is very bad. You admitted in the station house to officer Rose that you had served out two distinct terms at the Albany Penitentiary, each term being a period of three years. You also have been arrested, but never tried and convicted, for stealing a watch; you now stand convicted of burglary in the first degree, breaking open a gentleman's dwelling house in a respectable portion of the city. (The prisoner commenced to laugh.) I shall send you, continued his Honor, where you will have more time to laugh than you will have now. I will send you to the State Prison for the term of twelve years and six months.

George Smith (a boy) was placed on trial, charged with stealing a check for $126 45, on the 26th of February, from his employer, Benjamin F. Raynor. The complainant testified that on the day in question he sent the boy with $6,000 worth of checks to deposit them in the Union Trust Company, when one of the checks was missing. The case will be finished on Monday.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

THE WEATHER YESTERDAY.—The following record will show the changes in the temperature for the past twenty-four hours, as indicated by the thermometer at Hudnut's pharmacy, HERALD Building, Broadway, corner of Ann street:—

3 A. M.	34	3 P. M.	49
6 A. M.	33	6 P. M.	43
9 A. M.	33	9 P. M.	43
12 M.	43	12 P. M.	42

Average temperature 40
Average temperature Thursday..............34½

FOUND IN THE WATER.—The body of an unknown man was found floating in the water at the foot of Seventy-fifth street, North river. Deceased was about forty-five years of age and dressed in black coat and pants and light overalls. The body apparently had been in the water for several days.

DEATH BY ADMINISTERING CHLOROFORM.—Mary Ann Hart, a little girl ten years of age, whose parents reside at No. 101 East Fifth street, was taken to the Eye Infirmary in Second avenue for the purpose of having an operation performed. As is usually done in such cases Dr. Cutler, under the direction of Professor Delafield, administered chloroform to the patient, and before the operation was concluded the patient expired. As the chloroform was administered professionally and with good motives no blame, as yet, seems to attach to Professor Delafield or Dr. Cutler. Coroner Flynn was notified and will hold an inquest on the body to-day.

FATAL CASUALTY.—Coroner Flynn yesterday held an inquest at the Morgue on the body of Edward Conover, a man forty years of age, whose death resulted from injuries received by being run over. At the time of the occurrence it was supposed that the deceased had been crushed beneath the wheels of a Fourth avenue car, but the body being found lying on the track at the junction of the East Broadway and Fourth avenue lines of cars, it was impossible to ascertain which, if either, line of cars passed over the body. The jury rendered a verdict of death from injuries received by being run over by some vehicle to them unknown. Deceased was a native of Ireland.

NEW YORK STATE POULTRY SOCIETY.—This association, which has for its object the breeding of poultry on the system adopted in England, will hold its first annual fair at the Empire City Skating Rink, Third avenue, between Sixty-third and Sixty-fourth streets, on Monday, March 22, and during the remainder of the week. The exhibition will include pigeons, birds, rabbits, fawns, dogs, cats, in addition to all the varieties of domestic and fancy fowls. One of the most interesting features of the fair will be plans for farmyards and buildings, fences and devices for feeding. The exhibition will doubtless attract a large number, as the society is widely known as having taken the initiative in the movement for the practical advancement in poultry culture in the United States.

THE DUMMY ENGINE CASUALTY.—Coroner Flynn has commenced an investigation in the case of John Mundscheau, who was killed in Second avenue, near 121st street, by a dummy engine belonging to the Second Avenue Railroad Company. Officer Jackson, of the Twelfth precinct, deposed that he was about a block distant from where the accident occurred, and on looking around saw the engine with car attached. He noticed the wheels of the car partially off the track and the engine stopped slowly. In the opinion of the witness the engine at the time of the accident was going at the rate of twelve miles an hour, and on nearing 121st street the customary whistle signal was not given. The inquisition will be continued to-day at the Coroner's office, City Hall.

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

LARCENY OF DRESS TRIMMINGS.—Lucien F. Reed, No. 669 Greenwich street, appeared before Justice Dodge, at the Jefferson Market Police Court, yesterday, and charged David Andrews and Adam Klopp, boys, who had been in his employ, with stealing silk and worsted braids from him, valued at thirty dollars. They were committed to answer, as well as those who had been settled upon by the complainant as alleged receivers of the stolen goods. Each was held in default of $1,500 bail.

CHARGE OF BURGLARY.—William Hellnicht was yesterday brought before Justice Dowling by officer Toomey, of the Sixth precinct, on the charge of having a few hours previously broken into the lager beer saloon of Martin Boll, No. 55 Bayard street, by forcing open a rear window, with intent to steal therefrom four dollars in fractional currency and twenty-five dollars' worth of cigars. The accused was caught in the act of leaving the premises by the officer, and on searching him a knife and bunch of keys were found upon his person. The accused was committed to the Tombs for trial.

CARRYING CONCEALED WEAPONS.—Shortly before twelve o'clock on Thursday night Edward Butcher, a man sixty-five years of age, was arrested by officer O'Keefe, of the Fourth precinct, for disorderly conduct in discharging a loaded pistol in the street. On searching the prisoner at the Oak street police station a large lead knuckle was found concealed on his person, and it is alleged he intended to use the same. Butcher was subsequently taken before Justice Dowling and in default of $500 bail was committed for trial.

ARREST ON SUSPICION.—William Finnegan, an errand boy, sixteen years of age, living at No. 73 Oliver street, was arrested by detective Coyle, of the Central Office, on suspicion of having stolen seventy-five dollars in legal tender and currency notes from his employer, David Lisner, 323 Canal street. Finnegan left the store on the afternoon of the 15th inst., and two hours subsequently it was observed the above amount of money had been taken from the safe, near which the accused had previously been seen. Finnegan strenuously denies his guilt, says he can prove a good character, and Justice Dowling gave him an opportunity to do so. The matter will be further investigated to-day.

FELONIOUS ASSAULT.—John Gallat, of No. 25 West Houston street, appeared before Justice Dodge, at the Jefferson Market Police Court, yesterday, and accused Daniel J. Coffey of visiting and threatening him with felonious intent. The complainant in his affidavit charges that Daniel came into his saloon and commenced to abuse and threaten him, culminating his assault by seizing a large carving knife, and, after whirling it about his head, swearing he would take his life's blood. Deeming his life in danger the complainant called on officer Carl, of the Eighth precinct, who arrested the crazed individual. In his informal examination he denied any felonious intent and claimed that he was quiet at the time. He was committed in default of $1,500 bail.

"DESPERATE MIKE" ON THE RAMPAGE.—Michael O'Brien, better known as "Desperate Mike," a frequenter of the courts and not at all unacquainted with the Blackwell's Island officials, was yesterday arrested by officer Reid, of the Twenty-seventh precinct, on the complaint of Catharine O'Brien, the prisoner's wife, living at No. 87 Washington street. Mike was inflamed with liquor, and being of a noisy, turbulent nature, commenced demolishing the windows and furniture in his apartments, and doubtless would have served his wife in the same manner but for the prompt interference of the guardian of the peace. Mike was taken before Justice Dowling and committed to the Tombs, there to remain till he becomes sober and composed.

DILATORY POLICE OFFICIALS.—The business of the Tombs Police Court is often retarded by the omission on the part of certain captains of down town wards to send their prisoners to court before ten o'clock in the morning, whereas the magistrates contend it is the duty of the captains or sergeants in charge of the station houses to make a return of their arrests at the opening of the court, six o'clock A. M. By so doing the magistrate clears his calendar of cases at an early hour, which leaves him free for the disposition of more important business which may come in later in the day. Another reason why this old time custom should be adhered to is the fact that innocent parties (as is often the case) who may chance to fall into the hands of the police over night can be arraigned before the court at the earliest possible moment and their release secured. Justice Dowling has frequently petitioned the Superintendent of Police on the subject and earnestly asked that his wishes be complied with, but without avail.

BOLD CAR PICKPOCKETS.

Interesting Operations on the Fourth Avenue Road.

The noted expert pickpockets of the city for a while have remained in seclusion—awaiting, possibly, the passing away of the storm of indignation which all honest men recently indulged in at the laxity of justice hereabouts. A few of these thieves, however, who have become very poor and must need something to support them, have left their lurking places, and again the old trick of "nipping" watches on street cars has come in vogue. The first arrest of prominence of these recent manipulators of other men's property occurred very late Thursday night last, on Fourth avenue, under the following circumstances, narrated before Justice Dodge at the Jefferson Market Police Court, when M. Alberto Pagenstecher, a German importer, residing at No. 7 St. Mark's place, accused George King, whose face is familiar to officers and courts as a noted pickpocket, of relieving him of his watch and chain, valued at $250. The complainant explained that in company with his wife he took a Fourth avenue car up town, on their way home, his watch being in his pocket at the time. When near Eighth street he felt that it was safe. At that time he attempted to get out of the car, and as he stepped upon the rear platform King pushed against him and continued to do so three or four times, when he felt a distinct pressure against his watch pocket. Instantly he discovered his watch was missing, when he accused him of stealing it, which he denied, and at once ran through the car and attempted to escape; but in this he was prevented, when he returned to the rear platform, where he was seized and held until Sergeant Fields, of the Fifteenth precinct, came up and arrested him. He was at once searched, but the jewel could not be found, King evidently having handed it to a confederate when he hurriedly passed through the car and tried to escape.

In the matter of King's pushing the complainant and his suspicious movements generally there is, fortunately for the ends of justice, an intelligent witness named Adolph Philips, residing in the Bowery, who was in the car at the time and in such a position as afforded a view of the thief's movements.

King, in his informal examination, denied being the guilty party, claiming that the "complainant is mistaken this time." He says he is twenty-eight years of age, born in New York city, lives No. 108 Bleecker street, and is a mason by trade. Committed to answer without bail.

THE POLICE IMBROGLIO.

The Issues Between the Board and the Superintendent—The Demoralization of the Detectives—Captain Young to be Prosecuted.

Between the quarrel in the detectives' department of the Central Office and the long and bitter feud that has existed between the Board of Police Commissioners and its subordinate—the Superintendent—there is a good prospect of the truth of an old adage being fully borne out, and the public learning secrets that for years have been buried in the private drawers of No. 300 Mulberry street, or in the well-balanced memories of those who, feeling aggrieved by the recent turn of events, are now disposed to make a clean breast of the mysterious doings in that singular old marble pile whose walls have so long guarded Mr. Kennedy's secrets.

For many months the present Superintendent of Police has, by his acts at least, shown that he proposes to control the above establishment and run it independently of any superior authority; and he has exercised that power with a vengeance. One of the results of his maladministration is that the whole machinery of the police organization is rusty and unfit for service. A little grease is necessary. The Commissioners declare it shall be applied, and Mr. Kennedy takes issue with them and insists that no reforms are necessary.

THE COMMISSIONERS AND THE SUPERINTENDENT.

Passing over the previous conflicts of authority that have occurred between the Superintendent and the Board, with which the public are familiar, a record of the events of this week will suffice to give the people of New York and the Metropolitan district an idea of the demoralization that pervades the Central Office. The representatives of forty thousand well, disposed Irishmen wished to celebrate on Wednesday the birth of their patron saint; and that the public peace might be observed they asked for a special police force. The Superintendent, himself an Irishman, bitterly objected. His superiors unanimously ordered the extra force, and it was provided. The defeated gentleman then adjourned the police trials without consulting the Board. A quarrel ensued, and he took shelter under the excuse that his superiors were not in the building at the time the order was issued.

THE DETECTIVES' SQUABBLE

has been pretty fully ventilated in the press, and one of the results is that almost the entire force in that branch of the service have taken sides for or against the late chief. The action of the Board on Thursday in refusing to accept Captain Young's resignation has caused "confusion worse confounded" in room No. 12, and numerous aspirants for detective honors have sprung up. Among them are secret foreign importations, who wear the shamrock, rose or thistle, as occasion requires; and there is a lively race for the prize. Among those of the office who have been prominently named are Messrs. Coyle, Walling, Irving, Niven, Eustace and Kelso. With one exception these gentlemen have not aspired to the command of the force; hence they were not disappointed yesterday when the Superintendent, with more magnanimity than was expected of him, ordered Mr. Kelso to take temporary charge of the detective forces, and lead a charge upon the thieves' citadel. Mr. Kelso, himself, was astonished, but he could only yield a ready obedience to superior orders.

THE SUPERINTENDENT'S POWER IN THE PREMISES.

At the meeting of the Board on Thursday the Superintendent was ordered to take charge of the detectives' office and conduct its business. The Board delegated to him no power to promote one of the force over any other, yet he has done so without consulting it, and, while Mr. Kelso's appointment gives general satisfaction, Mr. Kennedy's action is looked upon as a rather unwarrantable interference with the duties that properly pertain to the Board. It is due to the Superintendent, however, to say that he considers he had the power under his instructions to name whom he liked.

CAPTAIN YOUNG'S CASE.

Persons well versed in police law and rules are of the opinion that the Board has acted hastily in putting the late chief of detectives on trial, and that there is no authority nor precedent for their action. Captain Young yesterday was at the Central Office for some hours, and freely expressed his determination to contest the issues raised.

THE RULE OF THE BOARD.

Several rules are quoted, but the following is the one upon which the Board have taken action:—

The Board of Police, for meritorious and extraordinary services rendered by any member of the police force, in the due discharge of his duty may, at their discretion, permit such member to retain for his own benefit any reward or present tendered him therefor; but it shall be a cause of removal from the force for any member thereof to receive any such reward or present without giving notice thereof to the Board of Metropolitan Police, through the superintendent. When rewards are allowed to be retained by members of the force ten per cent of the amount thereof shall be deducted for the benefit of the Life Insurance Fund, on all sums from five dollars to $250, and fifteen per cent on all sums above $250 to $1,000, and twenty five per cent on all sums above $1,000.

Captain Young claims that he has given notice through the Superintendent, in obedience to this order.

THE LATE CHIEF TO BE PROSECUTED.

It is understood that the board has called for a legal opinion as to its power to compel the late chief, in a civil suit, to disgorge the sums received by him since 1st January, and in the event of an opinion favorable to the board, a suit will be instituted. Until Mr. Young—whose name still appears on the morning returns as chief—is dismissed there is no probability that quietude will be re-established about the building. The public have been surfeited with police quarrels and feel like exclaiming, "Let us have peace," even at the expense of a general clearing out of the entire occupants of the Central Office, whose plots, conspiracies and ambition to rule have brought it into such deserved disrepute.

Assignments to Duty.

The following order was issued yesterday:—

GENERAL ORDER NO. 562.
OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT METROPOLITAN POLICE,
NEW YORK, March 20, 1869.

TO THE CAPTAINS OF PRECINCTS:—

For the information of the members of the Metropolitan Police force, and in order that the position occupied by each of the Inspectors of Police may be known, it is hereby announced—

That Inspector George W. Dilks is continued as Office Inspector at Headquarters, New York.

That Inspector John S. Folk is continued at the Central Office, Brooklyn.

That Inspector William Jameson is assigned to the First Inspection district, consisting of the several precincts, and the sub-station in Brooklyn, the First, Second, Fourth, Seventh, Eleventh, Thirteenth and Twenty-seventh precincts, New York, and the Fifty-first precinct and sub-stations in Richmond county.

That Inspector George W. Walling is assigned to the Second Inspection district, consisting of the Third, Fifth, Sixth, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Twelfth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-first, Twenty-second, Twenty-third, Twenty-fourth, Twenty-fifth, Twenty-sixth, Twenty-eighth, Twenty-ninth, Thirtieth, Thirty-first and Thirty-second precincts, New York, and the Thirty-second sub-stations at Tremont and Yonkers, in Westchester county.

JOHN A. KENNEDY, Superintendent.
GEORGE W. DILKS, Inspector.

THE HAYTIEN EMBASSY.

Arrival of General Laroche, Minister Plenipotentiary from Hayti.

Among the arrivals on the steamer Georgia, reaching this port yesterday from Hayti, was General Everiste Laroche, Minister Plenipotentiary from the Haytien government to the United States. Shortly after his debarkation, and, in fact, before seeking rooms at a hotel, he proceeded to the office of Mr. Ellwood Cooper, Haytien Consul, accompanied by General A. Prox, Secretary of Legation. After a very pleasant interview with the representative of his government in this city, in which he was quite particular and sedulous in his inquiries regarding the condition and treatment of the Haytiens here, he went to the Stevens House to engage rooms. General Laroche, his Secretary of Legation and the remainder of his retinue of attendants were told that there was not room for them at the hotel. Resuming bag and baggage, they jumped into a carriage to find a hotel elsewhere less plethoric in the matter of guests, in which, it is to be presumed, they were at length successful. It is certain, however, they did not patronize any of the leading hotels, though in a large city like this it is not likely they had to institute a very protracted search for the accommodations they desired.

The Haytien Minister is a very pleasant gentleman and prepossessingly polite in his bearing. No experienced diplomat could be more graciously amiable and conciliatory. He dresses well, but plainly, and altogether bears his honors very modestly. No one would imagine him to be a minister from a foreign government, and if told that he was, would hardly imagine it to be from any other country than Hayti. His face, a dark, rich olive, and features somewhat antipodal to the Anglo-Saxon, give convincing token of his birthplace being between the tropics of Capricorn and Cancer. His knowledge of the English language is quite limited, but his Secretary of Legation converses in our tongue with very tolerable ease and fluency.

General Laroche announced to the Spanish Consul his intention of remaining here several days before proceeding to Washington to lay his credentials before this government.

EXHIBITION IN ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S COLLEGE.

Yesterday, being the Feast of St. Joseph, was observed as a day of thanksgiving and rejoicing by the students in St. Francis Xavier's College, West Sixteenth street. The first grammar class had a grand exhibition under direction of Rev. Father Hamill. The programme contained a dialogue on St. Joseph, dialogues entitled "Filial Piety" and "The Homeless Father," besides exercises in elocution. The youths spent a merry time, every one paying reverence to the rector of the college, Rev. Father Loyzance, who was celebrating his patron saint's festival. The rector congratulated the students on the progress they had made during the year just ended, and exhorted them to persevere, so that their actions in after life might reflect the precepts inculcated by their Alma Mater.

THE FEVER SHIP.

Two More Deaths at the Seamen's Retreat—Inquest at Staten Island—Additional Revelations of Horror.

The inquest on the bodies of Thomas Petersen and Alfred Robinson, two of the crew of "the fever ship" James Foster, Jr., who are alleged to have died from ill treatment received on board the vessel, was held at Staten Island yesterday. The following is the evidence taken:—

Thomas C. Moffatt sworn—I am physician-in-chief of the Seamen's Retreat; Thomas Petersen was admitted to the hospital on the 8th of March; his feet were frozen and he was in an extremely emaciated condition; his skin was dry, shrivelled, parchment-like; he had a very feeble pulse; he was twenty-five years of age; he died on Monday morning, the 15th instant, at five o'clock; I made a post mortem examination on the body and found an abrasion on the right arm, and bits and ecchymotic spots under the eyes; I found the lower lobe of the left lung consolidated by inflammation and in a state of gray hepatization in patches; the superior lobe of the same lung was much congested; the right lung was normal; the heart and kidneys were also normal; the spleen was about double the normal size and was much softened; the liver was also softened; there was very dark congestion of the lower end of the ilium and of the first part of the colon; there was no ulceration; the brain presented nothing distinctly pathological; the left foot to the instep and up to the malleoli, on either side, was gangrenous; the toes of the right foot were also gangrenous; I think the feeble state of the deceased was produced by exposure, and that the primary cause of his death was inanition, and that the secondary cause was the inflammation of the lungs and the gangrene of the feet; Alfred Robinson was admitted on the 8th of March, and he died on the 15th, at eleven o'clock in the evening; when admitted his feet were frostbitten and he was in a state of extreme debility; I made a post mortem on the body to-day; the emaciation was not great as compared with that of Petersen; the only mark externally I noticed was over the left eye, an unhealed wound; the toes were slightly frosted; the examination of the internal organs revealed a healthy condition of the lungs, except that the lower lobes were hydrostatically congested; the heart was normal; the spleen was about three times the normal size and very much softened in structure; the liver was also softened; the gastric mucous membrane was congested in patches, showing ecchymotic spots; the mesenteric glands were considerably enlarged; the kidneys were hypertrophied, about two and a half or three times the normal size, of a very dark maroon color, showing the structure of both kidneys to be very much softened; the intestines, large and small, were normal; there were no other noticeable signs in the internal organs; the primary cause of death, in my opinion, was inanition, brought about immediately by the inflammation of the kidneys; I do not think that a man well fed on board a ship for three months, although he might have hard work to do, would present the emaciated appearance that the deceased did; had Robinson been well treated on board he would not have presented the appearance he did; I do not know what produced the disease of the kidneys; the deceased may have had the disease of the kidneys for several weeks; I believe that the disease in the enfeebled condition the sufferer was at the time was the immediate cause of death.

John L. Feeney, one of the house physicians, was next sworn—Petersen told me he had been sick three weeks, that he had received a very limited quantity of food and that he had been beaten by the first mate, the third mate and the boatswain; in the post mortem examination I found a limited deposit of tubercle in the upper lobe of the right lung; the deposit was of long standing; I am at a loss to account for the remote cause of death, but I agree with Dr. Moffatt that the immediate cause was the inflammation of the lungs and the gangrenous state of the feet; there were marks of violence under each eye of the deceased.

Thomas H. Bryan, sworn—I knew Thomas Petersen and Alfred Robinson; they were put on very short allowance of provisions and water on the James Foster, Jr.; they were ill treated by the first mate, third mate, boatswain and carpenter; one day during the voyage I saw Petersen on board with his face all bruised and his eyes blackened; I asked him who did it and he said Felix, the second steward, had done it with a belaying pin; shortly after that, the same day, I saw the boatswain give him a terrible beating with a belaying pin or a strap, I forget which; I frequently saw the boatswain beat Petersen; the latter was sick about three weeks in the hospital and was put to work in the cold weather without anything but rags to cover his feet, he having no shoes or boots; I never heard a man say an impudent word to an officer of the ship while I was on board of her; they never spoke back a single word when spoken to; Petersen and Robinson were strong, hearty men when they left Liverpool; the general treatment of the crew by the officers was brutal in the extreme; they seemed to thirst for blood; I have been following the sea for seven and thirty years, and I never saw such brutality before; I often saw the carpenter beat Robinson with a belaying pin, a hammer or anything else that came handy; the second mate was often beaten by the first mate and was sent before the mast and then reinstated afterwards; he was not cruel to the men when he was second mate.

James Wilson sworn—I am one of the seamen of the James Foster, Jr.; I have heard Bryan's testimony and I fully corroborate it; I was often maltreated by the third mate; the carpenter once struck me with a hammer in the head, and the first mate once struck me; I saw the boatswain beat Petersen; after the first week we had not enough food or water; the passengers used to complain also that they were deprived of the necessary amount of food and water.

John McVeity sworn—I was second mate of the ship James Foster, Jr., on her last voyage from Liverpool; I knew Petersen and Robinson; they were, while on board the vessel, treated very roughly; I saw Petersen once with a black eye and bruised face; the first mate often struck me, knocked me down and kicked me; all the men appeared to be in good health when they came on board at Liverpool; as far as I ever could learn the men in the hospital did not receive proper attendance; I was sent before the mast for a week by the captain, I suppose because I didn't use belaying pins or other implements as the other officers did; the crew never showed any mutinous spirit and always obeyed the officers to the best of their ability; in my opinion the short allowance of food and water, the exposure needlessly to the weather and the bad treatment received at the hands of the officers hastened the deaths of Petersen and Robinson; the doctor of the vessel was nearly always roaming about the vessel under the influence of liquor.

The inquest was here adjourned to next Friday.

SUPPOSED SUICIDE.

Mysterious Disappearance of a Woman from a Boat in the River.

The East river has been the scene of one of those mysterious events, involving the fate of a human being, which may remain forever one of the unsolved mysteries incidental to city life. Between the hours of eleven and twelve o'clock on Tuesday night John Knapp, of the canal boat T. J. Harvey, lying in the East river, at the foot of Eleventh street, came to officer Abbott, of the Eleventh precinct, and stated that about three weeks ago he took from a disreputable house in Centre street a woman named Martha F. Miller to act as cook on the boat. During the evening she said she felt ill, and asked him to procure her some liquor. He left at about nine o'clock for it and went to a store in avenue D. He returned in about twenty minutes and found she had disappeared and that her shoes were on the cabin floor and a ring which she wore, was on the table. He feared she had thrown herself overboard, as she had previously told him that if anything should happen to her she wished him to open her trunk and find a letter containing her parents' address and inform them. She had resided at Johnstown, New York, for about nine years, when her husband died, and she was induced to come to this city under a promise of marriage. No further information has reached the police than the above statement. Her trunk has been taken in charge by them, and the letter referred to, which gives her father's address as J. Padgett, 23 New Banks, Halifax, Yorkshire, England.

The following statement, made by John Knapp, furnishes a detailed account of the circumstances which preceded the disappearance of the woman, but still leaves the matter shrouded in mystery:—The name of the woman who has disappeared was "Martha F. Miller;" her maiden name Padgett. She was born in England, was aged twenty-eight, and has been in this country fourteen years. She came over with a wealthy English family and resided at Johnstown, N. Y., where she married and lived until her husband's death, when she removed to Rahway, N. Y. About four months ago she came to New York, where I met her and engaged her as cook. On Sunday, when the boat was lying at Jersey City, she complained of illness; I went for a doctor, but could not find one to come with me. I went to the hospital in Jersey City and they refused to receive her, as she had come from New York. When sick on Monday she threatened to throw herself overboard, and about three or four days ago she took a gold ring and told me to give it to my daughter. She also said there was a letter in her trunk which would give her father's address, and wished me to write to him if she did not get well. She improved rapidly until last (Tuesday) evening, when she became ill again. I told her I would apply next day at Bond street for a ticket for her to Bellevue Hospital. At nine o'clock she asked me to go for some liquor, and when I returned with it, in about twenty minutes, she was gone. The ring was on the table next the lamp, and her slippers on the floor. I believe she could not have walked up the dock without my seeing her, or being observed by some one. She was of short stature, dark complexion and had dark hair. I have given her clothes and the ring to the police authorities. I was the only person on the boat at the time.

It is evident from the place where the boat is lying and the hour at which the woman disappeared that if she threw herself overboard the chances were against her being seen, as the boat is about two hundred yards from any house, and the vessels in the neighborhood are being built or refitted and have no crews on board.

RAID ON THE FLAG POLES.

No More Banners to be Hung "On the Outward Walls"—Misdirected Zeal of the Street Commissioners—Doings of the Crowbar Brigade.

The Street Commissioners have covered themselves with glory. They have gained a bloodless triumph and captured banner poles, if not flags, innumerable, in a gallant charge of about four hour's duration. At eleven o'clock yesterday morning they marshalled their small but heroic band on Broadway, at the corner of White street. At that hour the passing stranger, and any observing individual who was not a stranger, might have beheld at the place designated a magnificent chariot in the shape of a blue lumber wagon, which bore the ominous name "Jacobus" in bold letters. Beside this appurtenance of glorious war stood five men, one of them the Superintendent of Streets and the other four belonging to that badly paid and foully malignant class of city officials known as street inspectors—a class of individuals whom so many citizens accuse of doing nothing and being splendidly paid for doing it. If any of the maligners of these worthy officials had beheld them as they stood by that blue chariot at the corner of White street remorse for past uncharitable remarks about them would have overwhelmed the soul of any but the most hardened of such traducers. True, the countenances of the heroes were not bronzed by the burning sun or weather beaten with the bitter cold and wet that some unsophisticated individuals may imagine to be incidental to the duties of a street inspector. They were a fat, well-preserved party, with that noble expression of feature peculiar to so many city officials, particularly to the members of the Board of Aldermen. Each face betrayed the utmost resolution, and every rugged countenance showed a resolve to do or die in some terrific contest in which he was evidently about to engage. In the cart (or rather chariot) were five or six stalworth warriors of ominous aspect, who seemed to await, impatiently, orders from the chief below. From time to time the whole band would cast their eyes, with a look half menacing, half covetous along Broadway.

Glancing up Broadway, above the line marked by the tops of the innumerable vehicles that thronged the thoroughfare, the spectator might behold a very forest of poles projecting into the street. From some of these flagstaffs gay banners streamed in the breeze, but the majority of them had no ensign hung out on this fatal occasion. From the tops of the houses a vast array of tall flagstaffs stretched away as far as the eye could reach. But it was at the lower banner poles, those projecting from "the outward walls," that the heroic band at the corner of White street looked so ominously. The upper ones were at a dizzy height, and evidently beyond the power of the warriors. The ten or eleven warlike individuals in and around the blue war chariot are about to attempt the capture of every one of those banner poles and banners that project on Broadway between White and Thirty-first streets.

The street commissioners have recently betrayed a spirit of antiquarian inquiry worthy of Mr. Pickwick, and have discovered, says one of the warlike band referred to in a previous paragraph, an old statute, which had long been lost sight of, which enacts that no banner poles or signs shall be allowed to project over the street. There are two reasons at least why the street commissioners should seize the opportunity of enforcing this enactment, first—because they can disprove in the face of thousands and to the chagrin of hundreds the oft-repeated statement that they display no zeal in the performance of their duties; and in the second place they can prove their possession of that æsthetic taste which finds it contrary to the spirit of harmony and beauty to have signs and flagstaffs projecting over Broadway. That the banner poles in question were an obstruction to business could not be pretended, seeing that in hardly any case do they project below the second story. The Commissioners ordered, then, the enforcement of the obsolete and obnoxious statute, and assembled their warriors for that purpose.

The order to march being given the blue chariot of "Jacobus" started on its mission. In it were ladders and various implements such as burglars use when they would remove obstructions that will not yield to gentle means. The banner poles were hung out. Their owners had in some cases been notified to remove them, but had refused to do so, alleging that "every man's house is his castle," and that they would hang whatever they pleased out of their windows, their looks and tones indicating in many cases that they would very much like to hang out some of the street commissioners and their minions. The heroic party that accompanies the blue cart, believing that deeds, not words, befit the true soldier, paid little heed to these murmurs of the irascible citizens, but, with a chivalric bearing worthy of Don Quixote, gallantly made a charge for the first banner pole. Up went the ladder, bang, bang went the hammer, and down came the obnoxious staff, which was triumphantly placed in the blue chariot amid the curses, "not loud, but deep," of him who had erroneously supposed that he could hang out his own banner in front of his own house. Between Canal street and the Museum of Anatomy the crowbar brigade found considerable scope for the exhibition of their peculiar skill. In many cases the complaints of the citizens were so vehement that for a time even the courageous band with the blue chariot were kept at bay by the torrent of angry expostulation that assailed them. Their hesitation, however, did not last long; the spirit of "glorious war" soon resumed its sway in their martial breasts; once more up went the ladder and down came a banner pole. Arrived at the Museum of Anatomy a projecting banner arrested the attention of the lynx-eyed skirmishers. That banner must be captured, and a glance at the physiognomies of the band that was about to scale the walls of the museum told the proprietor of that establishment that any appeal to their feelings would be useless. They are not men to be moved by anatomy or "wax figgers," or daunted by the head of Probst, the murderer. The museum was in a short time left minus its gay ensigns. Right and left the warriors continued their captures. Arriving near Great Jones street another pole was seen projecting a short distance from over a doorway, and to the pole was attached a small piece of canvas informing the passers by that an auction sale was going on there. Here was an obstacle that suddenly arrests the career of a band who have marched in triumph for nearly a mile, capturing every offending pole and sign that met their dauntless gaze. But this auctioneer's sign arrests for a time their victorious career. The chiefs were in doubt as to the wisdom of numbering this sign among their captures. "Is it," they ask each other, "among the trophies allowed by the orders from the potent Street Commissioners?" A council of war was held; the chiefs tried to look thoughtful, but having little reasoning power to bring to their aid, concluded that prudence was "the better part of valor," and regretfully passed on, leaving the auctioneer's pole and sign unscathed. The Pavilion, in Broadway, next arrested their attention, but after some reflection they discovered what any one else would have seen at a glance—that the flag poles sprang from the roof of the building (which is of one story), and are, therefore, not obnoxious to the statute. Numerous captures, with a repetition of the angry scenes already detailed, were made between Eighth and Twenty-second streets.

Having passed Twentieth street the band descried what seemed to be a very long and defiant pole stretching from the corner of Twenty-second street over Broadway. Here was a trophy. The flagging spirit of the warlike band at once rose to the war pitch, and they marched in quick time to the spot, but as they neared it, lo! what looked so much like a splendid flagstaff turned out to be the projecting limb of a large tree, whose trunk it had been impossible previously to discern. At No. 1,149 Broadway, near Twenty-seventh street, a capture was made of the sign of a real estate agent, who complained loudly of the tyranny of the "crowbar brigade." Not satisfied with pulling down his sign, which was attached to the railings in front of his office, and did not interfere in the least with the rights of any one nor with the appearance of that part of the street, enraged at what they considered his want of respect for these minions, they actually went so far as to tear off the announcement of real estate sales that was placarded on the trunk of a tree that grew by his door, a tree which extends nearly half way across the pavement, and which the Commissioners, had they done their duty, would never have allowed to remain, an obstruction to passengers and unsightly object in the street.

Arrived at Thirty-first street the warriors rested from their bloodless victory, and the chariot of "Jacobus" was laden with the spoils of their long and triumphant march.

CUBAN LADIES' RELIEF ASSOCIATION.

The twelfth regular meeting of this body of patriotic Cuban ladies was held at the St. Julien Hotel yesterday afternoon, Señora Rosa P. de Nzquierdo in the chair. The letter of Señor Morales Lemus, Ambassador to Washington from the provisional government of Cuba, complimenting this association on their praiseworthy efforts to relieve the wants of the sick and wounded of the patriot army of Cuba, was the subject of general congratulations and remark. The sacred concert, already announced, will take place at Steinway Hall on Easter Sunday evening, the 28th instant, under the leadership of Mr. Thomas; tickets, one dollar. No doubt the friends of Cuban liberty and republican government will not forget this occasion, and by their presence give these devoted and warm-hearted ladies every encouragement in the laudable enterprise they have so nobly enrolled themselves.

The monthly report of Señora Manuela Yzquierdo, treasurer of the association, was submitted and approved, showing that the amount realized from sale of tickets at last concert was $3,355; donations, $446; total receipts, $3,801; expenditures, $561—leaving a surplus fund of $3,239. A concert will be held in Brooklyn in the course of two or three weeks, when an opportunity will be afforded the good people of the City of Churches to contribute towards the cause.

It is reported that a very large number of wealthy Cubans have remitted their mass of wealth or fortunes to the safe keeping of a banker of this city, until the affairs at present existing in Cuba are settled. It is also reported that the amounts so forwarded bear no interest.

LECTURES LAST NIGHT.

AFFAIRS IN GEORGIA.

The Colored People and Their Needs—Lecture by a Colored Clergyman.

A lecture was delivered last evening, in room 24 Cooper Institute, by Rev. James M. Semms (colored), one of the expelled members of the Georgia Legislature, before American Anti-Slavery Society. The subject of the lecture was, "Affairs in Georgia, the Colored People and their Needs." The attendance was small. The lecturer is a mulatto, having no prominent traits or characteristics of his race. He spoke in a clear distinct voice, with excellent delivery and well chosen words. He was frequently applauded in the course of his remarks. The lecturer was introduced by Mr. A. M. Powell.

In his opening remarks Mr. Semms said he would have been better pleased to see a larger audience. The society was not a very popular one, but the work it has effected was known and appreciated throughout the world. He said he was born and brought up in Georgia. The grand march liberated the slaves of that State. He had been a slave all his lifetime to that period, but he had always hoped for the day of freedom—a hope that had been implanted in his breast by his mother's teaching. He did not look for the deliverance of his people from an internecine war; he had looked forward to that great event from a war between the United States and England. When they were freed they expected all the privileges of freemen. This blessing, it has turned out, has not been vouchsafed to his race, as they had anticipated. The colored men of the South had at once allied themselves to the great republican party of progress. It fell to be his lot to be one of those to whom was entrusted the duty of organizing his people for the great work before them—the duty of citizenship. It was no small task to teach a people so long oppressed the high duty of citizens. But the freedmen had proved apt scholars. They possessed one great quality and virtue for the work—a veneration for the Union and the Stars and Stripes. The people organized, and in August, 1867, they went for the first time to the polls—87,000 freedmen in Georgia alone. In the county of Chatham, known as the Ogachee, at the opening of the polls there was assembled 1,400 men who had travelled a great distance bearing the flag of the Union before them, so that they might be enrolled. Three days the election was carried on with the greatest order, not a drunken man appearing among them, not a blow struck or angry word spoken. From the plantations, the corn fields, the tobacco fields and the rice meadows, these men came to enrol themselves as citizens of the great reconstructed Union. The State of Georgia is divided into the white and black belts. In the former, where the whites predominated, they voted numerously enough to make the Convention a success. The State went for a convention, and voted for a constitution which was subsequently to be voted for. Again the blacks came to the polls and a severe contest followed, the whites voting almost as a unit against the constitution, the blacks voting as a unit for it. The latter carried the constitution. They elected a Legislature, members and Senators for Congress and a republican Governor. He was elected a member of the Legislature by eighteen hundred majority over his opponent. There were in all thirty-one colored men elected—twenty-eight to the Assembly and three to the Senate. They could as well have elected fifty colored men if they so desired it, but they were too modest. They appealed to white men to allow themselves to be returned, but the spirit of ostracism was too strong and they declined. The thirty-one members (colored) were tried for the high crime and misdemeanor of being black, and they were expelled. The crime, if crime it is, was not theirs, but their Creator's, who made them. This act of the Legislature showed that Georgia was not reconstructed; that the rebels did not deem themselves whipped, and that they loved the old Union no better then than they did when they first took arms against it. Since that time outrages increased fifty per cent in Georgia. (On this subject the speaker read from a report of the Freedmen's Bureau, showing the increase of crime and the outrages committed on the freedmen. Those outrages in which the blacks were the victims numbered over 300.)

The questions arose, Were the blacks of the South really free? Were they entitled to the rights and immunities of American citizens? Was their condition better now than it was before? The blacks were now more disheartened and depressed than in the days of slavery. Where, he asked, was the power and protection of the great party to whom they had allied themselves? The whole nation was responsible for these outrages, but republicans, as a party, were responsible. There were indications of being abandoned by the party, and unless Congress interfered for the rights of the freedmen the freedmen of Georgia and their votes would be lost to the party of the nation. He had been in Washington begging of Congress to relieve them, but as yet nothing had been done in their behalf. He had confidence, however, in the efforts of the Anti-Slavery Society to relieve them from the prejudice of caste. The society had done great service in the cause of freedom, but there was still work for them to do to remove the prejudice of caste and to secure for the freedmen the full rights of free citizens. The people of the whole States was the tribunal that must be appealed to in this matter. The prejudice against the blacks arises not so much on account of color as from the fact that they had been formerly a degraded and enslaved race. These prejudices must be removed. We are living in new times, and the American people must come up to the necessities of the times. God will not allow the great work of revolution and regeneration to flag. The work must be perfected. Jefferson said he trembled for his country when he remembered God was just. God is just, and takes the smallest atom he has created under his fatherly supervision and care as he does the greatest. The American government must be able to take care of the poorest and humblest of her citizens or else it is a failure. All must be free, or else all will become slaves, that is, the contract of 1776. There is no getting rid of the black race. Like the thistle, that the man to please his fastidious taste, brought to India—the thistle spread and flourished, and it grew everywhere. There is now no getting rid of the thistle, and there is no rooting out the black race from this continent, and this is a fact that all must recognize. To be just to themselves as a nation, the American people must be just to the negro. (Applause.)

"THE HOUSE WE LIVE IN."

Lecture by Dr. Willard Parker.

A lecture on the above subject was delivered by Dr. Willard Parker last night, in the Olivet chapel, in Second street, near Second avenue. The lecturer, on coming forward, was received with applause. He said his purpose that night was not to amuse but instruct, and he trusted that what he might say would be of some service to them in the way of prolonging their health. The three great objects of man were life, health and happiness, and these were objects which all of us wished to cultivate. The first lecture was occupied in speaking of the house in which we lived. He then spoke of the framework, covering and fixtures, and also referred to the several departments or stories of the house. He had also referred, in the lecture alluded to, to the furniture contained in these several stories or departments; and now he would commence with the department of the house which contained the chest, the thorax and the lungs and heart. Next we had the upper story, or the "conscious ego," which said, "I own this house; I am the man to whom it belongs." The individual who thus spoke had his residence in the upper story, or the head, as it was called. Then they had the organs of respiration or the bronchial tubes. Then they had circulation, restoration and secretion or excretion. Having illustrated these organs in diagrams, he went on to say that the time was coming when if we chanced to have millions of people on this continent, we would not have a sufficient supply of material to exist upon. What could we do to procure that material so that it can be made to return back that we might eat it over again? It was a very serious question, what was to become of us. As long as we had got land enough and wheat fields in our rear and railroads for rapid communication and transportation, he supposed we were safe; but let our population be sufficiently large, and unless we carried back the materials again and reproduced them we would be destroyed. The second group was the procreation of the species. That existed equally with the vegetable as with the animal kingdom. The third group conferred upon was voice or vocal power. The fact was that in the world of the last thirty or forty years intellect was what has been altogether in the market. Intellect was the *summum bonum* in everything: but if intellect was not controlled by great moral force, the possessors of it in a great many instances were nothing more than brutes in society. That was the great fault in our education in these days. The lecturer then went on to explain in a pleasant and conversational manner the laws which governed the human body, and pointed out how they could be followed out by any one desirous of living a regular life. He illustrated his remarks by copious diagrams which were suspended across the room.

THE ALLEGED MALPRACTICE CASE.

Arrest and Committal of Dr. Wolfe.

Yesterday morning Dr. Gabriel Wolfe, who stands charged with malpractice in causing the death of Mrs. Magdalina Phillips by performing an operation upon her, as already stated in the HERALD, was brought before Coroner Rollins, at his office, in the City Hall, by officers Dunlap and Clark, of the Seventeenth precinct. As soon as it was learned that the Doctor was wanted Captain Mount directed his officers to make diligent search for the medical practitioner, who, however, is said not to be in good standing among the members of his profession. By dint of a little shrewd manœuvring the officers struck the trail of Dr. Wolfe, and followed him to the house of a relative in Sixth avenue, near Forty-sixth street, where he was taken in charge. Accommodations were provided for him in the Fifth street station house for the remainder of the night. The prisoner's counsel sought to have him released on bail, but Coroner Rollins denied the application and committed Dr. Wolfe to the Tombs to await the result of the inquisition, which is to be continued on Tuesday next.